National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

,			
1. Name of Property			
historic name Carr, Titus V	V., House		
other names/site number			
2. Location			1/1 //
street & number N side SR 1244, 0.15 mi W of NO			
city, town Walstonburg		. 07	* vicinity
state North Carolina code NC	county Greene	code 07	27888 zip code 27888
3. Classification			
	Category of Property	Number of Res	ources within Property
x private	building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	¬	6	6 buildings
public-state	site		sites
public-Federal	structure		structures
	object		objects
		6	8 Total
Name of related multiple property listing:		Number of contr	ributing resources previously
N/A			ional Register0-
4. State/Federal Agency Certification	on		
National Register of Historic Places and In my point of the property meets of Signature of certifying official State Historic Preserv State or Federal agency and bureau	d meets the procedural and professio does not meet the National Regist	nal require <u>me</u> nts :	set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property meets	does not meet the National Registo	er criteria. See	continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official			Date
State or Federal agency and bureau		-	
5. National Park Service Certificatio	n		
, hereby, certify that this property is:			
entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National			
Register. See continuation sheet.			
determined not eligible for the			
National Register.			
removed from the National Register.			
other, (explain:)	_		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Signature of the h	Keeper	Date of Action

6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/Single dwelling	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/Single dwelling	
DOMESTIC/secondary structure	VACANT/NOT IN USE	
	which was a paying the state	
	<u></u>	
7. Description		
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)	
	foundation	Brick
Greek Revival	walls	Weatherboard
Italianate		
	roof	Tin
	other	Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located on level farmland in rural Greene County, North Carolina, the T. W. Carr House is an intact, largely-unaltered two-story, double-pile house in a Greek Revival/ Italianate transitional style. Greek Revival in form, and with mostly Greek Revival detailing, it also has a variety of scroll-sawn applied ornament, such as brackets, trellised porch supports and drillwork moldings. Located to the rear and sides of the house is an array of outbuildings contemporary with the house and later, including a kitchen and two smokehouses. The drive approaching the house is lined with mature cedar trees, and the house is surrounded by mature trees of a variety of species.

Set back from the highway about 200 feet, the Carr House is approached by an unpaved drive lined with cedars and magnolias. A pair of ca. 1900, rock-faced concrete block piers marks the entrance to the drive in a row of cedar trees that lines the highway. The house is encircled by an unpaved drive, on either side of which are mature trees, mostly oaks. Radiating diagonally across the fields in front of the house are two lines of old cedars. Unpaved paths lead from either side of the house to the fields and to outbuildings. About 200 feet from the rear of the house is a line of old pecan trees that parallel the rear boundary of the house lot. To the west of the house are the remains of a former kitchen garden.

The nearly square, three-bay, double-pile main block of the house is set on short brick piers. It has a low-sloped, hipped, standing seam metal roof with short interior chimneys that rise from either side plane of the roof. On the east side the chimney has retained its corbelled cap, while the west chimney has been partially rebuilt. At regular intervals in the frieze below the shallow, boxed main cornice of the house are small, scroll-sawn brackets, between which runs a dentilled basemolding. The exterior walls of the house are clapboarded, with wide corner boards on which are overlaid pilasters that have capitals made up of both classical and scroll-sawn moldings.

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Across most of the three-bay, front elevation of the house is a shallow, one-story porch with a hipped, standing seam metal roof. Lacy, scroll-sawn trellised posts support the roof. Scroll-sawn double-S brackets arch between the tops of the posts. Between the bottoms of the posts is a railing with delicate, scroll-sawn balusters. The boxed cornice of the porch roof has paired, horizontal brackets over each post with a gingerbread waterleaf molding running between them. The corona of the porch cornice also is ornamented with a dentil course. Clapboard-width beaded boards, set with a space between them to allow for ventilation, are used for the porch ceiling.

On the front three elevations of the house, the first floor windows have nine over nine sash set in plain, molded surrounds. All of the second floor windows have six over six sash in the same type of surround. Most of the windows have retained their moveable-louver wood blinds.

Centered in the front elevation underneath the porch is the single front door. This broad, six-panelled door is set in a heavily-molded, crossetted surround with sidelights and a transom. All but two of the panes of the transom and sidelights retain their diaper-pattern cut glass.

The east and west elevations of the house are identical; consisting of two widely-spaced window bays. A nearly full-width, one-story wing with hipped metal roof runs across the rear elevation. As originally constructed, this wing appears to have had a recessed central porch with sleeping or storage rooms on either side. Later additions to the building obscured this plan. The current owners have removed the deteriorated additions and reconstructed the outer walls, except that the central porch has been enclosed. At either side elevation the rear wing has a single four over four window, while along the back are half-height modern six over six windows and a modern, off-center rear door. Paired horizontal brackets, like those used on the front porch, survive on the west cornice of the wing.

Inside, the house has a center-hall plan with pairs of rooms on either side, on both elevations. The high-ceilinged first floor hall runs the full depth of the house to a doorway matching the front entrance. Its plastered walls have a high, beaded baseboard, an eye-height beaded hanging strip and double-shouldered doorways with molded surrounds and four-panel doors. A long rise of open-string stair carries up the west wall of the hall and does a short dogleg to the second floor. This stair has an octagonal newel post, turned balusters and a molded handrail.

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Rooms on either side of the hall have had their ceilings lowered several feet, but still above the line of the tall windows. The door casings match those of the hallway, but the window surrounds are plain, with a flat backband molding and a narrow panel below the sash.

On the east side of the hall, the front room has a vernacular Greek Revival mantel with double pilasters sharing a single, flat, Ionic capital. The rear room has a Greek Revival mantel with panelled pilasters, a wide frieze and a heavy shelf with dentil course below it. At either side of the mantel are shallow closets.

On the west side of the hall, the front and rear rooms are connected by a narrow passage next to the chimney. The front room has a vernacular Greek Revival mantel with panelled frieze, while the rear room has a similar mantel with plain, arched frieze.

Following the customary heirarchy, the second floor ceilings are lower and the hallway has single-shouldered door and window surrounds with a molded backband and narrower beaded baseboards. One side of the hall has a beaded hanging strip. The two front upstairs rooms have slightly more ornate woodwork, the east room having low-arched window and door surrounds and an Italianate mantel with tabernacle-panelled pilasters, an oval-panelled frieze and bosses. In the west room, the door surrounds have narrow shoulders and the Greek Revival mantel has chamfered pilasters. Identical plain Greek Revival mantels and unadorned window and door surrounds are used for the rear two rooms.

A number of outbuildings are located on the property. These include:

- 1. Smokehouse/storage house; ca. 1870 (C)
- A small, hipped-roofed frame building, it has two board and batten doors on the front elevation leading to two small rooms. The room at the south end has a louvered vent and appears to have been used as a smokehouse, although it is not clear what its original function might have been. There are no openings in the north room other than the door, and it appears to have been a store room.
- 2. Smokehouse; ca. 1900 (C) Gable-roofed frame smokehouse with off-center board and batten door and boxed cornice. A line of holes drilled below the eaves of the house around its circumference allowed excess smoke to escape.
- 3. Former kitchen; ca. 1870 (C) Set directly behind the house and in line with its west elevation, the

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gable-roofed frame kitchen is now set on concrete block piers. Although the chimney has been removed from its west gable end, it is apparent from the smoke and cooking grease on the inside of the unfinished, whitewashed walls that the building was used as a kitchen. There are six over six windows on the north and east elevations and a board and batten door at front. The building may have been moved from a location closer to the house.

- 4. Woodshed; ca. 1900 (C)
- Small, gable-roofed wooden building with vertical framing members set in the ground. The east and south elevations of the house are covered with lattice. This building now contains a small, modern woodburning furnace.
- 5. Washpots; ca. 1910; (NC)
 Northwest of the kitchen are two large iron pots with masonry enclosures. The largest sits in a base of machine-made brick with a flue extending from one side. The other, smaller pot has an iron lid and is set in a cube of concrete. These pots may have been used to boil water for washing clothes and for slaughtering hogs.
- 6. Equipment shed; ca. 1970; (NC) Large, gable-roofed shed with framing of creosoted poles and partial sides of agricultural tin.
- 7. Storage house; ca. 1910; (NC) One-story, gable-roofed frame building with sides covered by metal sheets. Board and batten door in end wall. Probably used for storing crops. Side elevation has tin-sheathed equipment shed.
- 8. Equipment shed; ca. 1920; (NC) Small, tin-sheathed, frame equipment shed with one open side.
- 9. Barn; ca. 1870; (NC) Gable-roofed wooden building has elements of a heavy timber-framed earlier structure, but has been considerably reworked. Open shed wings extend on either side.
- 10. Barn; ca. 1910; (NC) Located about 100 yards west of the house, this tin-sided, gable-roofed frame building has a clapboarded living quarters along its north side and a board and batten door in the gable end.

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11. Gin house?; ca. 1890; (C)
This one-story, gable-roofed frame building with boxed eaves has a large shed extension on its west elevation. The side walls of the building are now covered with tin. There are board and batten doors on the south and west elevations. Portions of 19th century cotton gins are stored in the shed area, suggesting that this building may have served as a gin house.

12. Shed; ca. 1900; (NC) Small, deteriorated, gable-roofed frame shed with latticework for walls on its east elevation.

8. Statement of Significance Certifying official has considered the significance of this proportion in attionally	erty in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria XA BXC	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D E F G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Agriculture Architecture	Period of Significanceca. 1870-1903	Significant Dates ca. 1870
Significant Person N/A	N/AArchitect/BuilderUnknown	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Titus W. Carr House, located in rural Greene County, North Carolina, significant in that county's history as a representative of county's post Civil War rural farming economy and as an excellent remarkably intact example of post Civil War Greek Revival/Italianate Sitting on a home tract of 13.64 acres only recently architecture. separated from the larger plantation developed by the original and surrounded by a number of domestic and agriculturally-related outbuildings, the property has significance in the areas of agriculture and Carr (1841-1903) was a prominent planter, architecture. Titus W. merchant and county commissioner during the 35 years following the Civil War when evolutionary changes occurred in the agricultural system of the state and Greene County. This era witnessed the break-up of many large pre-War plantations, the development of new plantations based on differfarming methods, and the rise of farm tenancy and sharecropping as modes of production. Carr's plantation seat is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A by its association with these developments and under Criterion C because of its high quality of design and craftsmanship. With the exception of a non-original rear ell which been removed and the remodeling of an original rear wing, the Carr House remains virtually unchanged since its period of significance, possessing integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Historical Background

Greene County, formed in 1799, is located in east central North Carolina in the state's coastal plains region. A predominantly rural county, its economic base is almost exclusively agricultural in nature, which has been true throughout its history. Prior to the Civil War, cotton and

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corn were produced on large plantations worked by slaves.(1) post-War period, these plantations were often broken up into farms or worked by tenant farmers or sharecroppers, a major common throughout eastern North Carolina. The agricultural for the 1870 and 1880 censuses record these changes; in the latter year, majority of owner-worked farms recorded in the county consisted of fewer than 100 acres. Many of the plantations recorded as more than 500 in size were being farmed by tenants. Titus Carr was one of a relatively small number of planters, probably fewer than thirty, 500 and 1000 acres and worked the land themselves with owned between The population schedule for the 1880 census lists hired labor. laborers at the Carr plantation.(2)

Titus W. Carr, the well-educated son of a prosperous antebellum plantation owner, apparently built his handsome plantation seat within five years after the close of the Civil War. Born in adjoining Pitt County in 1841, Carr received his education at Stantonsburg Academy, Horner College, and the University of North Carolina where he graduated in 1863. After serving in the North Carolina Cavalry during the Civil War, Carr moved to Greene County and began to build his fortune, in agriculture rather than the law for which he had trained.(3)

As all prior deed records for the county were destroyed by fire in 1875, it cannot be ascertained when Carr purchased his first tract of land in the county, but he was living here when the 1870 census was recorded. He had married Ada Little of Beaufort County in 1866, and its architectural style and workmanship suggest that the house could well have been built within the four-year period following his marriage. In 1870, Carr was listed as owning 530 acres of land (230 improved and 300 unimproved) valued at \$10,000.(4) Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1872 lists Carr as one of the county's major farmers.(5)

Carr prospered throughout the last quarter of the century, in part due to his commercial enterprises. The 1877-78 Branson's North Carolina Business Directory indicates that he was operating two general stores, one in partnership with his brother R. A. L. Carr. The latter store was located at Hookerton in the southeastern corner of the county, but the exact location of the former has not been identified. It may have been the same store that is listed in the 1890 and 1896 directories as being located at Castoria, the small rural community centered around the crossroads near his residence and possibly named for his plantation. (6) As an affluent merchant, Carr was able to advance credit to many of the small farmers in the area. (7) He also served as a county commissioner for one term (1879-1881).(8)

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The Titus W. Carr House is a two-story, double-pile frame house in the Greek Revival/Italianate style with a bracketed cornice, one-story fullfacade porch with elaborate sawnwork balustrade, supports and brackets, and a crossetted architrave surround at the entrance. The featuring a broad, high-ceilinged center hall with four rooms opening from it on each floor, is as carefully detailed as the exterior, with somewhat fanciful Greek Revival mantels, a handsome staircase and crossurrounds on the first floor. It is one of the finest houses surviving in Greene County which date from the last three decades of the 19th century. The use of the Greek Revival/Italianate style at a relalate date is indicative of rural conservatism. The house located near the center of a 13.64-acre site with a complement of 19th and early 20th century domestic and farm-related outbuildings, well as mature trees--cedars, oaks, nut trees and fruit trees--and other plantings typical of the home tract of a large plantation. Of note are the large cedars which line both sides of the highway the property's southern boundary.

The Carr plantation at Castoria was typical of the late 19th century, with sufficient livestock and staple crops to provide for many of the family's basic needs, as well as substantial cash crops such as cotton and corn. The agricultural schedule of the 1880 census reports that Carr had 325 acres of tilled land and 300 acres in woodland and forest, for a total value of \$6,000. The estimated value of all the farming production for a year was \$5,500. Of the tilled acres, 150 were given over to Indian corn, while 100 were in cotton.(9)

continued to accumlate property until his death in 1903; at that time he owned two major tracts of land in the county--Castoria in Carr's Township was his principal plantation seat, while Willow Green was a smaller farm in Ormonds Township.(10) After his death, his plantations Castoria and Willow Green remained in undivided ownership by his heirs until the estate was divided in the late 1970s, when the total acreage was 1933.89 at Castoria and 311 at Willow Green.(11) From 1903 until 1968, the farms were managed by Carr's son-in-law Charles Harper, who, with his wife and mother-in-law (Carr's second wife), lived in the From the Harpers' move to Wilson in that year house until 1918. early 1986, the house has been occupied intermittently--by the family for special occasions or vacations or by farm employees such foremen.(12) The present owners, who purchased the house and immediate outbuildings on a 13.64-acre home tract, are in the process of restoring/rehabilitating the house, which has had only minimal modernization since the turn of the century.(13)

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In 1976, a survey was conducted of the historic and architectural resources of the Tar-Neuse River Basin of eastern North Carolina by the Survey and Planning Branch of the state Division of Archives and History. While this was not an intensive survey recording all resources in the area, it did identify the most significant resources surviving from the 18th through early 20th centuries. In Greene County, approximately 60 properties, overwhelmingly rural in nature, were recorded. Unfortunately, a significant number of the plantation seats which flourished in the late 19th century no longer exist. Of those which do, many have been abandoned and vandalized or, though still used, allowed to deteriorate.

The Carr House is unique among the Greene County properties in the Tar-Neuse Survey, but is architecturally related to three other houses: the residence of Colonel R. C. D. Beaman, a late 19th century frame house with elaborate architectural detail which has lost its front porch and whose interior has been vandalized; the Darden-McKeel House, a frame Italianate house which in 1976 was in an extreme state of disrepair, with porches and window sash gone and overgrown with vines; and the Harvey House, similar to the Carr House but more restrained in ornament, which in 1976 was being used as a tobacco pack house.(14)

Footnotes

- (1) Bill Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina, vol IV (Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Co., 1961), pp. 1891-2.
- (2) Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, The History of a Southern State: North Carolina, 3rd ed. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1973), p. 522; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Greene County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule; and Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Greene County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.
- (3) North Carolina Biography, Volumes IV, V and VI of History of North Carolina, by R. D. W. Connor, William K. Boyd, J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton and others (Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 6 volumes, 1919), IV, pp. 127-128, hereinafter cited as Connor and others, North Carolina Biography; and Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Pitt County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule.

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- (4) Connor and others, <u>North Carolina Biography</u>; and Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Greene County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.
- (5) Levi Branson, ed., <u>North Carolina Business Directory, 1872</u> (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1872), p. 109; hereinafter cited as <u>Branson's Business Directory</u>, with relevant year.
- (6) <u>Branson's Business Directory</u>, 1877-78, p. 134, 1890, p. 320, and 1896, p. 302; and William W. Powell, <u>The North Carolina Gazeteer</u> (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1968), p. 92.
- (7) Greene County Register of Deeds, hereinafter cited as GCRD, deed book 5, pp. 152, 202 and 214, and Grantor Deed Index, 1875-1903.
- (8) James M. Creech, <u>History of Greene County</u>, <u>North Carolina</u> (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1979), p. 358.
- (9) Ibid., pp. 431, 438 and 450; and Tenth Census of United States, 1880, Greene County, North Carolina, Agriculture Schedule.
 - (10) GCRD, Grantee Deed Index, 1875-1903.
- (11) Greene County Clerk of Superior Court, Special Proceedings, File 78, SP 34 and Wills, 85 E 84 and 86 E 6.
- (12) Information supplied by Mrs. Dorothy Bridgers, daughter of Charles and Dorothy Carr Harper and granddaughter of Titus W. Carr.
 - (13) GCRD, deed book 437, p. 474.
- (14) Survey and Planning Branch, N. C. Division of Archives and History, Historic and Architectural Resources of the Tar-Neuse River (Raleigh: Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1977) Appendix 9: Greene County Inventory, pp. 9-4-9-10.

Note: Preliminary research for this nomination, including location of valuable source material, was conducted by Jim Sumner, Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, N. C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N. C., September 1986.

	X See continuation sheet		
Previous documentation on file (NPS):			
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	Primary location of additional data: State historic preservation office		
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency		
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency		
designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government		
recorded by Historic American Buildings	University		
Survey #	Other		
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Specify repository:		
Tiecold #			
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of property <u>13.64</u>			
UTM References			
A 1 8 25 69 0 0 39 3 5 8 6 0 Zone Easting Northing	B [1 8 2 5 7 2 4 5 3 9 3 5 8 0 0 Zone Easting Northing		
$C \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 9 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$D \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & 6 & 9 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 9 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$		
	See continuation sheet		
Verbal Boundary Description	1 1 1 1		
a dashed line on the attached survey m	ts of the 13.64-acre tract outlined by		
22, page 308, entitled "Property of T. W. Carr	-		
1" = 200'	,,		
	See continuation sheet		
Boundary Justification			
<u> </u>	ts of the home tract13.64 acresof		
Titus W. Carr's late 19th century plan			
1933 acres of tilled land and woodland Carr's heirs in the late 1970s and the			
1986.	nome trace both out of the family in		
	See continuation sheet		
11. Form Prepared By			
name/title David R. and Allison H. Black			
organization Black & Black, Preservation Cons			
street & number 620 Wills Forest St.	telephone 919 828-4616		
city or town Raleigh	state_NCzip_code_27605		

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Major Bibliographical References

Branson, Levi, ed. <u>North Carolina Business Directory</u>, 1872, 1877-78, 1890, 1896 editions. Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1872, 1878, 1890 and 1896.

Bridgers, Mrs. Dorothy. Information supplied by.

Creech, James M. <u>History of Greene County</u>, <u>North Carolina</u>. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1979.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage and Newsome, Albert Ray. The History of a Southern State: North Carolina, 3rd ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1973.

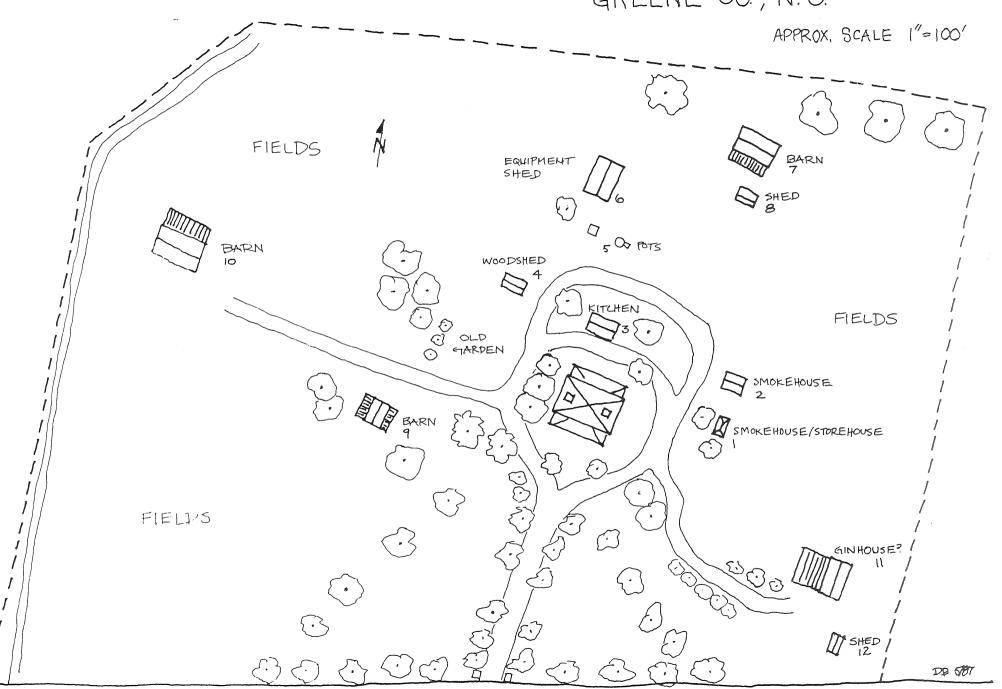
North Carolina Biography. Volumes IV, V and VI of History of North Carolina by R. D. W. Connor, William K. Boyd, J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton and others. Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1919.

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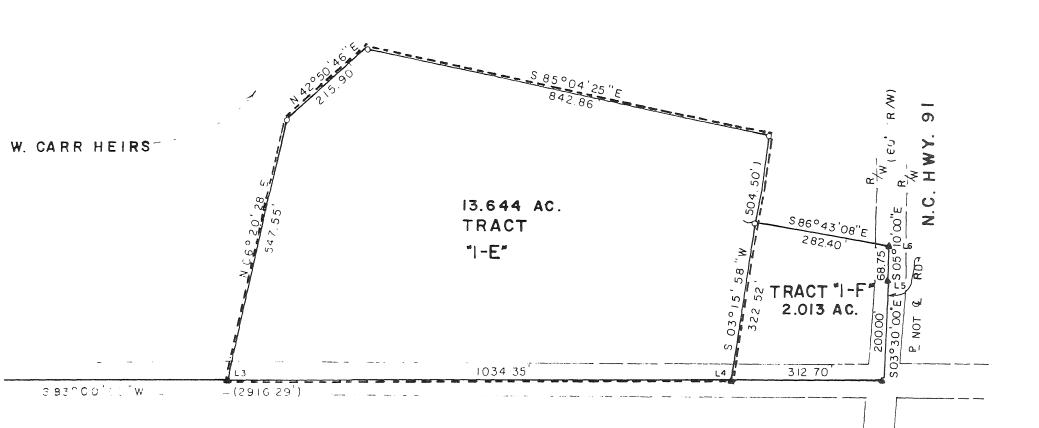
United States Census Office. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Pitt County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Greene County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Greene County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule. Microfilm copies. Archives, N. C. Division of Archives and History.

T.W. CARR HOUSE GREENE CO., N.C.



TITUS W. CARR HOUSE - GREENE CO., N.C.

PROPERTY OF T.W. CARR HEIRS, NOV. 1985 GREENE COUNTY PLATS BOOK 22, PAGE 308 1"=200'



T. W. CARR HEIRS

